**The Political Spectrum**

Central Debate: *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ vs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is it the role of govt to get involved in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* Is it the role of govt to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* Is the role of govt to help or regulate\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* How much \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ should I receive?
* How much \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_do I expect?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ issues | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ issues |
| Abortion | Education |
| Gay Marriage | Welfare |
| Death Penalty | Universal Health Care |
| Gun Control | Illegal Immigration |
|  | Social Security |

**Issues in American Politics:**

**Abortion**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Liberal** | **Conservative** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Fetus, not baby |  |
| Separation of church/state | Fetuses feel pain |
|  | Robbing society of hero... |
|  |  |

**Illegal Immigration**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Liberal** | **Conservative** |
| *Tolerant* | *Intolerant* |
| Land of immigrants |  |
|  | Take jobs |
| Take unwanted jobs | Homeland security |
| Lower consumer prices |  |
|  |  |
|  | Crime |
|  |  |

**War**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Liberal** | **Conservative** |
| *Passive* | *Aggressive* |
|  |  |
| Use diplomacy | Deterrent to challenge |
|  |  |
| Collateral damage | Liberate people from oppression |
|  |  |

**Same Sex Marriage**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Liberal** | **Conservative** |
| *For* | *Anti* |
|  | Want amendment to declare marriage is m/f |
|  | Fear moral erosion |
| Brings revenue to states | Suspect fraud for benefits |
| Aids in adoptions |  |
| Basic spousal rights like |  |
| No such thing as traditional marriage |  |

**Universal Health Care**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Liberal** | **Conservative** |
|  |  |
| Millions uninsured | Individual’s responsibility to get care |
| Private practices questionable: | Eliminates freedom of choice |
| Regulations needed | Tax increases |
|  |
|  |

**Death Penalty**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Liberal** | **Conservative** |
| *Against* | *For* |
|  |  |
| Immoral to kill | Eliminates possibility of escape or parole |
|  |  |
| Rehabilitation | Equal justice: Eye for an Eye |
|  |  |
| Wrongful executions | Prison overcrowding |

**Gun Control**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Liberal** | **Conservative** |
| *For regulation* | *Against regulation* |
|  | 2nd Amendment   * Right to Bear Arms |
| Child shootings(home) |
|  |
| Mass murders |  |
| Personal rights |
| Criminals will still obtain guns |
| Slippery slope:   * “home invasion” |
|  |

**Social Security**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Liberal** | **Conservative** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Private markets volatile | Government irresponsible |
| System can be fixed | Better investment potential for retiree |
| Reduce size of govt |
|
|

**Axes: Personal and Economic Freedoms**

*Liberals and Conservatives seek freedom AND intervention from government.*

Personal:

Economic:

**Where are you on the issues?**

L

C

Abortion

L

C

Illegal Immigration

L

C

War

L

C

Same Sex Marriage

L

C

Univ. Healthcare

L

C

Death Penalty

L

C

Gun Control

L

C

Social Security

Conclusion: Liberal ----------------------------Moderate-----------------------Conservative

L

C

Which issues are the most important to you?